

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 03885 181347Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 AID-05 DHA-02 /090 W
-----181358Z 108750 /47

O R 181252Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1971
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3885

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IN
SUBJECT: MRS GANDHI ACCUSES OPPOSITION OF VIOLATING PROMISES

REF: NEW DELHI 3728

1. IN HARSH SPEECH IN UP MAR 17, MRS. GANDHI ACCUSED OPPOSITION
AND PRESS OF BACKING OUT OF PROMISES THEY HAD MADE WHEN EMERGENCY
WAS RELAXED THAT THEY WOULD NOT INDULGE IN VIOLENCE AND
INDISCIPLINE AND THAT PRESS WOULD NOT PUBLISH NEWS DETRIMENTAL TO
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INTERESTS OF NATION. OPPOSITION PARTIES WERE TRYING TO USE THE
FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM BY "SPREADING RUMORS OF ALLEGED EXCESSES
IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM". PRESS WAS PUBLISHING ALL SORTS OF
RUMORS AND OTHER UNDESIRABLE NEWS. OPPOSITION HAD MADE SEVERAL
ATTEMPTS AT VIOLENCE BEFORE ELECTIONS AND TRIED TO CREATE INDIS-
CIPLINE, CHAOS AND ANARCHY AMONG STUDENTS, LABOR AND OTHERS.

2. JAGJIVAN RAM AND OTHER OPPOSITION LEADERS DENIED MRS. GANDHI'S CHARGES, DENYING THERE WAS ANY AGREEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN MADE WITH MRS. GANDHI BUT ALSO DENYING THAT OPPOSITION HAD ENCOURAGED VIOLENCE. RAM SAID FREEDOM OF PRESS MEANT REPORTING OF EVENTS AS THEY TOOK PLACE.

3. FOLLOWING ON MRS. GANDHI'S COMMENTS TO BBC (REFTEL), THERE HAS BEEN SOME INCREASE IN NERVOUSNESS AMONG SOME INDIANS WE HAVE SPOKEN TO IN DELHI AND WITHIN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES THAT MRS. GANDHI MAY YET BE CONSIDERING SOME DRASTIC MOVE TO HOLD ON TO POWER EVEN IF ELECTION RESULTS GO BADLY FOR CONGRESS. ONE INDIAN NEWSMAN PASSED ON RUMOR GOING AROUND THAT SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS HAD BEEN TOLD TO "WRAP UP THEIR AFFAIRS" BY THIS WEEKEND, A CRYPTIC NOTICE WHICH NO ONE QUITE UNDERSTOOD BUT WHICH SOUNDED SOMEWHAT ALARMING.

3. ANSWERING A PRESS QUERY, JAGJIVAN RAM TOLD INDIA TODAY, A BI-WEEKLY PUBLISHED YESTERDAY, THAT THE ONLY ACTION HE COULD SEE MRS. GANDHI TAKING TO AVOID DEFEAT BEFORE THE ELECTIONS WERE COMPLETED WAS "MARTIAL LAW, BUT THEN AGAIN, THE ARMED SERVICES ARE AN IMPARTIAL ENTITY. WE TOO CAN APPEAL TO THEM". THIS IS THE FIRST REFERENCE BY A SENIOR OPPOSITION POLITICIAN TO MARTIAL LAW SINCE THE CAMPAIGN BEGAN. CHARAN SINGH TWO WEEKS AGO OBSERVED THAT THE ARMY MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE THINGS INTO ITS HANDS IF THE ELECTION WAS NOT CONDUCTED FAIRLY. (NEW DELHI 3589)

4. COMMENT: EVERYONE IS GETTING A BIT "NERVY" IN THESE FINAL DAYS BEFORE THE BALLOT COUNTING, AND THE IMAGE OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND USE OF THE ARMY AFTER THE PAKISTAN ELECTION
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ARE VERY VISIBLE FROM THIS SIDE OF THE BORDER
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770093-0559
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770346/aaaabnfv.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 3728
Retention: 0
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3066781
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MRS GANDHI ACCUSES OPPOSITION OF VIOLATING PROMISES
TAGS: PINT, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e003eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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